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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of the application as follows:

1. **[Previously Presented]** A label assembly comprising:
a generally planar writing surface for receiving temporary and permanent indicia; and
a semi-rigid core supporting said writing surface, said core defining a slot positioned and sized to releasably receive an edge of a generally planar wall of an open container such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said edge when said edge is received within said slot, and wherein the orientation of said slot is generally parallel to said writing surface.
2. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said writing surface includes a whiteboard for removably receiving dry-erase indicia.
3. **[Canceled]**
4. **[Previously Presented]** The label assembly of claim 1, further comprising an elongate projection extending lengthwise along said writing surface and extending in a lateral direction generally perpendicular to said writing surface, said projection sized and shaped to prevent inadvertent erasure of said temporary indicia.
5. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 4, wherein said elongate projection is sized and shaped to act as a second writing surface.

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6. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 4, wherein said elongate projection bears permanent indicia.

7. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 4, wherein said elongate projection includes one or more straight or curved segments at least partially surrounding said writing surface.

8. **[Canceled]**

9. **[Canceled]**

10. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 1, wherein said writing surface comprises a front writing surface facing a first direction and a rear writing surface facing a second direction generally opposing said first direction.

11. **[Previously Presented]** The label assembly of claim 1, wherein said core further defines a second slot, distinct from said slot, said second slot also positioned and sized to releasably receive said edge such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said edge when said edge is received within said slot, and wherein the orientation of said slot is generally parallel to said writing surface.

12. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 1, wherein an area of said writing surface bears permanent indicia.

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13. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said writing surface includes a vinyl-coated writing surface for removably receiving water-soluble indicia.

14. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said writing surface includes a metallic core such that said writing surface is suitable for removably receiving magnetic indicia.

15. **[Original]** The label assembly of claim 1, further comprising a generally transparent film releasably adhered to at least a portion of said writing surface.

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16. **[Previously Presented]** A method of releasably mounting an erasable label across an edge of a generally planar wall of an open container, said method comprising:

providing a generally planar writing surface to receive said label, said writing surface suitable for receiving temporary and permanent indicia;

mounting said writing surface to a semi-rigid core; and

forming a slot within said core, said slot positioned and sized to releasably receive said edge such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said edge when said edge is received within said slot, and wherein the orientation of said slot is generally parallel to said writing surface.

17. **[Previously Presented]** The method of claim 16, wherein said step of providing a writing surface further comprises:

providing a whiteboard to receive said label, said whiteboard suitable for removably receiving dry-erase indicia.

18. **[Canceled]**

19. **[Canceled]**

20. **[Previously Presented]** The method of claim 16, further comprising:

providing an elongate projection extending lengthwise along said writing surface and extending in a lateral direction generally perpendicular to said writing surface, said projection sized and shaped to prevent inadvertent erasure of said temporary indicia.

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21. **[Original]** The method of claim 20, wherein said step of providing an elongate projection further comprises:

sizing and shaping said elongate projection for use as a second writing surface.

22. **[Original]** The method of claim 20, wherein said step of providing an elongate projection further comprises:

arranging one or more straight or curved segments of said elongate projection to at least partially surround said writing surface.

23. **[Original]** The method of claim 16, further comprising:
providing a second writing surface facing a direction generally opposing that of said writing surface.

24. **[Previously Presented]** The method of claim 16, further comprising:
forming a second slot within said core, distinct from said slot, said second slot also positioned and sized to releasably receive said edge such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said edge when said edge is received within said slot, and wherein the orientation of said slot is generally parallel to said writing surface.

25. **[Original]** The method of claim 16, further comprising:
printing permanent indicia upon an area of said writing surface.

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26. **[Original]** The method of claim 16, wherein said step of providing a writing surface further comprises:

providing a vinyl-coated writing surface to receive said label, said coated writing surface suitable for removably receiving water-soluble indicia.

27. **[Original]** The method of claim 16, further comprising:
providing a metallic core beneath said writing surface such that said writing surface is suitable for removably receiving a magnetic indicia.

28. **[Original]** The method of claim 16, further comprising:
providing a releasably adhesive and generally transparent film sized and shaped to be placed upon at least a portion of said writing surface.

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29. **[Withdrawn]** A labeling system for a container, comprising:
a container defined by a floor and at least one wall extending upward from said floor, said at least one wall having an upper edge;
a semi-rigid core defining a slot positioned and sized to receive said upper edge and releasably engage said at least one wall; and
a generally planar writing surface for receiving temporary and permanent indicia, wherein said writing surface is supported by said semi-rigid core and oriented generally parallel to said slot, such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said upper edge when said upper edge is received within said slot.
30. **[Withdrawn]** The labeling system of claim 29 for a container filled to said upper edge with contents, wherein a majority of said writing surface extends above said contents.
31. **[Withdrawn]** The labeling system of claim 29, wherein said generally planar writing surface comprises:
a front writing surface facing a first direction; and
a rear writing surface facing a second direction generally opposing said first direction.
32. **[Withdrawn]** The labeling system of claim 29, wherein at least a portion of said generally planar writing surface includes a whiteboard for removably receiving dry-erase indicia.

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33. [Withdrawn] The labeling system of claim 29, wherein said semi-rigid core is sized and shaped to be grasped by one hand.

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34. **[New]** A label assembly comprising:
a generally planar writing surface for receiving temporary and permanent indicia; and
a semi-rigid core supporting said writing surface, said core having a thickness and generally opposing top and bottom sides, said writing surface extending from near said top side to a lower boundary,
wherein said core defines a slot within said thickness, said slot extending upward from said bottom side to a depth terminating near said lower boundary of said writing surface such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond and generally above said slot.
35. **[New]** The label assembly of claim 34, wherein said writing surface comprises:
a front writing surface facing a first direction; and
a rear writing surface facing a second direction generally opposing said first direction.
36. **[New]** The label assembly of claim 34, wherein at least a portion of said writing surface includes a whiteboard for removably receiving dry-erase indicia.
37. **[New]** The label assembly of claim 34, wherein at least a portion of said writing surface bears permanent indicia.

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38. [New] The label assembly of claim 34, wherein at least a portion of said writing surface includes a vinyl-coated writing surface for removably receiving water-soluble indicia.

39. [New] The label assembly of claim 34, wherein at least a portion of said writing surface includes a metallic core such that said writing surface is suitable for removably receiving magnetic indicia.

40. [New] The label assembly of claim 34, further comprising a generally transparent film releasably adhered to at least a portion of said writing surface.

41. [New] The label assembly of claim 34, wherein said slot is positioned and sized to releasably receive an edge of a generally planar wall of an open container, such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said edge when said edge is received within said slot to said depth.

42. [New] The label assembly of claim 41, wherein said core further defines a second slot within said thickness, distinct from said slot, said second slot also positioned and sized to releasably receive said edge such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said edge when said edge is received within said slot to said depth.

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43. [New] A method of assembling a label, comprising:
providing a generally planar writing surface suitable for receiving temporary and permanent indicia;
mounting said writing surface to a semi-rigid core, said core having a thickness and generally opposing top and bottom sides, such that said writing surface extends from near said top side to a lower boundary; and
forming a slot within said thickness, said slot extending upward from said bottom side to a depth terminating near said lower boundary of said writing surface such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond and generally above said slot.
44. [New] The method of claim 43, further comprising:
providing a rear writing surface facing a direction generally opposing that of said writing surface.
45. [New] The method of claim 43, wherein said step of a providing a writing surface further comprises:
providing a whiteboard on at least a portion of said writing surface for removably receiving dry-erase indicia.
46. [New] The method of claim 43, further comprising:
printing permanent indicia on at least a portion of said writing surface.

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47. [New] The method of claim 43, wherein said step of a providing a writing surface further comprises:

providing a vinyl-coated writing surface on at least a portion of said writing surface for removably receiving water-soluble indicia.

48. [New] The method of claim 43, wherein said step of a providing a writing surface further comprises:

providing a metallic core beneath at least a portion of said writing surface for removably receiving magnetic indicia.

49. [New] The method of claim 43, further comprising:

providing a releasably adhesive and generally transparent film sized and shaped to be placed upon at least a portion of said writing surface.

50. [New] The method of claim 43, wherein said step of forming a slot further comprises:

positioning and sizing said slot to releasably receive an edge of a generally planar wall of an open container, such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said edge when said edge is received within said slot to said depth.

51. [New] The method of claim 50, further comprising:

forming a second slot within said thickness, distinct from said slot; and
positioning and sizing said second slot to releasably receive said edge such that a majority of said writing surface extends beyond said edge when said edge is received within said slot to said depth.